

contacting any other life float or buoyant apparatus in the group; and

(4) The strength of the float-free link under paragraph (b)(2) of this section and the strength of the painter under § 180.175(e)(3)(ii) must be determined by the combined capacity of the group of life floats and buoyant apparatus.

(f) Life floats and buoyant apparatus must not be stowed in tiers more than 1,220 millimeters (4 feet) high. When stowed in tiers, the separate units must be kept apart by spacers.

[CGD 85–080, 61 FR 975, Jan. 10, 1996; 61 FR 20557, May 7, 1996]

§ 180.150 Survival craft embarkation arrangements.

(a) A launching appliance that complies with the installation and arrangement requirements for launching appliances in subchapter W of this chapter must be provided for each inflatable liferaft and inflatable buoyant apparatus when either:

(1) The embarkation station for the survival craft is on a deck more than 4.5 meters (15 feet) above the waterline; or

(2) The inflatable liferaft and inflatable buoyant apparatus is boarded prior to being placed in the water.

(b) A embarkation ladder, approved in accordance with § 160.017 in subchapter Q of this chapter, or other standard specified by the Commandant, must be at each embarkation station if the distance from the deck on which an embarkation station is located to the vessel's lightest operating waterline is more than 3,050 millimeters (10 feet).

§ 180.175 Survival craft equipment.

(a) *General.* Each item of survival craft equipment must be of good quality, and efficient for the purpose it is intended to serve. Unless otherwise stated in this section, each item of equipment carried, whether required under this section or not, must be secured by lashings, stored in lockers, compartments, brackets, or have equivalent mounting or storage arrangements that do not:

- (1) Reduce survival craft capacity;
- (2) Reduce space available to the occupants;
- (3) Interfere with launching, recovery, or rescue operations; or

(4) Adversely affect seaworthiness of the survival craft.

(b) *Inflatable liferafts.* Each inflatable liferaft must have one of the following equipment packs as shown by the markings on its container:

(1) Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) B Pack; or

(2) SOLAS A Pack.

(c) *Life floats.* Each life float must be fitted with a lifeline, pendants, two paddles, a painter, and a light.

(d) *Buoyant apparatus.* Each buoyant apparatus must be fitted with a lifeline, pendants, a painter, and a light.

(e) *Equipment specifications for life floats and buoyant apparatus.* The equipment required for lifefloats and buoyant apparatus must meet the following specifications:

(1) *Lifeline and pendants.* The lifeline and pendants must be as furnished by the manufacturer with the approved life float or buoyant apparatus. Replacement lifelines and pendants must meet the requirements in Subpart 160.010 of this chapter.

(2) *Paddle.* Each paddle must be of at least 1,220 millimeters (4 feet) in length, lashed to the life float to which it belongs and buoyant.

(3) *Painter.* The painter must:

(i) Be of at least 30.5 meters (100 feet) in length, but not less than 3 times the distance between the deck where the life float or buoyant apparatus it serves is stowed and the lowest load waterline of the vessel;

(ii) Have a breaking strength of at least 680 kilograms (1,500 pounds), except that if the capacity of the life float or buoyant apparatus is 50 persons or more, the breaking strength must be at least 1,360 kilograms (3,000 pounds);

(iii) Be of a dark color if synthetic, or of a type certified to be resistant to deterioration from ultraviolet light; and

(iv) Be stowed in such a way that it runs out freely when the life float or buoyant apparatus floats away from a sinking vessel.

(4) *Light.* The light must be a floating waterlight approved in accordance with § 161.010 in subchapter Q of this chapter, or other standard specified by the Commandant. The floating waterlight must be attached around the body of the life float or buoyant apparatus by a 12-

thread manila, or equivalent, lanyard of at least 5.5 meters (18 feet) in length.

(f) *Other survival craft.* If survival craft other than inflatable liferafts, life floats, inflatable buoyant apparatus, and buoyant apparatus are carried on the vessel, such as lifeboats or rigid liferafts, they must be installed, arranged, and equipped as required under subchapter H (Passenger Vessels) of this chapter for passenger vessels on the same route.

Subpart E—Number and Type of Survival Craft

§ 180.200 Survival craft—general.

(a) Each survival craft required on a vessel by this part must meet one of the following:

(1) For an inflatable liferaft—Subpart 160.151 in subchapter Q of this chapter, or other standard specified by the Commandant, with the applicable equipment pack, as determined by the cognizant OCMI. Each inflatable liferaft required on a vessel by this part must have a capacity of 6 persons or more. Inflatable liferafts may be substituted for inflatable buoyant apparatus or life floats required under this section;

(2) For a life float—Subpart 160.027 in subchapter Q of this chapter, or other standard specified by the Commandant. Buoyant apparatus may be used to meet requirements for life floats if the

buoyant apparatus was installed on board the vessel on or before March 11, 1996, and if the buoyant apparatus remains in good and serviceable condition;

(3) For an inflatable buoyant apparatus—Subpart 160.010 in subchapter Q of this chapter, or other standard specified by the Commandant. Inflatable buoyant apparatus may be substituted for life floats required under this section.

(4) For a buoyant apparatus—Subpart 160.010 in subchapter Q of this chapter, or other standard specified by the Commandant. An existing buoyant apparatus may not be used to satisfy the requirements for life floats on existing vessels wishing to upgrade the total number of passengers carried on an oceans route.

(b) If the vessel carries a small boat or boats, the capacity of these boats may be counted toward the buoyant apparatus or life float capacity required by this part. Such boats must meet the requirements for safe loading and flotation in 33 CFR part 183, and must meet the stowage, launching, and equipment requirements in this part for the survival craft they replace.

(c) A summary of survival craft requirements is provided in Table 180.200(c). The citations in brackets identify the sections of this part that contain the specific requirements.

TABLE 180.200(c)

Route	Survival craft requirements
Oceans	(a) cold water ¹ —100% IBA—§ 180.202(a)(1). (i) w/subdivision ² —100% LF—§ 180.202(a)(2). (c) warm water ³ —67% IBA ⁴ —§ 180.202(b).
Coastwise	(a) wood vsls in cold water. (i) 67% IBA—§ 180.204(a)(1). (ii) w/subdivision—100% LF—§ 180.204(a)(2). (b) nonwood and vsls operating in warm water. (i) 100% LF—§ 180.204 (b) and (c). (c) within three miles of shore. (i) w/o subdivision—100% LF—§ 180.204(d)(1). (ii) w/subdivision—50% LF—§ 180.204(d)(2). (iii) w/float free 406 MHz EPIRB—50% LF—§ 180.204(d)(3).
Limited Coastwise (Not more than 20 miles from a harbor of safe refuge).	(a) wood vsls in cold water. (i) 67% IBA—§ 180.205(a)(1). (ii) w/subdivision—100% LF—§ 180.205(a)(2). (b) nonwood vessels in cold water—100% LF—§ 180.205(b). (c) within three miles of shore—§ 180.205(d). (A) w/o subdivision—100% LF. (B) w/subdivision—50% LF. (C) w/float free 406 MHz EPIRB—50% LF. (d) vessels operating in warm water. (i) 50% LF—§ 180.205(c). (ii) within three miles of shore. (A) w/o subdivision—50% LF—§ 180.205(e)(1). (B) w/subdivision—NONE—§ 180.205(e)(2).